

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00456 01 OF 02 082044Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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O 081955Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6905
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 0456

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, WA, SA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: CLARIFICATION OF PROPOSAL

REF: CAPE TOWN 373,

FOLLOWING IS JOINT REPORT OF CAPE TOWN FIVE ON THEIR MEETING
WITH FOURIE, MARCH 8.

1. THE CAPE TOWN FIVE MET WITH BRAND FOURIE AT 4:30 P.M.
THIS AFTERNOON (8 MARCH). FOURIE EXPLAINED THAT HE
HAD CALLED US TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT PRESENTED
TO HIM ON FEB. 27. BEFORE COMMENTING ON THESE SPECIFIC
CLARIFICATIONS, HE MADE THE GENERAL OBSERVATION THAT SO
MANY OF THE POINTS IN OUR PAPER HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION
IN THE MEETINGS WITH PIK BOTHA LAST SUNDAY (CAPE TOWN 423) THAT
THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESPONSE COULD ONLY BE TENTATIVE. THEIR
REACTION WOULD BE FINALISED AFTER THEY HAD RECEIVED OUR RESPONSE
TO THE POINTS RAISED BY BOTHA.

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2. THERE FOLLOW THE COMMENTS MADE BY FOURIE ON EACH OF
THE PARAGRAPHS OF OUR FEB. 27 PAPER (USUN 644 AND 677):

CLARIFICATION A (PARA 2 OF OUR PROPOSAL):
FOURIE SAID THAT THEY WERE GIVING FURTHER THOUGHT TO THE
PROPOSED LANGUAGE, AND OUR REACTIONS TO THE POINTS RAISED BY

BOTHA LAST SUNDAY WOULD HAVE A DIRECT BEARING ON ITS ACCEPTABILITY.

CLARIFICATION E (PARA 4):

FOURIE MADE THE SAME OBSERVATION WITH REGARD TO THIS PARAGRAPH.

CLARIFICATION F (PARA 5):

ON SUB-PARA 1), FOURIE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PUT INTO THE DOCUMENT WHAT IS STATED IN THE LAST SENTENCE, I.E., "WE RECOGNISE CENTRAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL". HE SAID THIS WAS IMPLICIT THROUGHOUT THE DOCUMENT BUT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE IT CLEARLY STATED.

ON SUB-PARA 2), FOURIE SAID THAT IT WAS AN IMPROVEMENT TO DELETE THE LANGUAGE REFERRING TO MEASURES NOT TAKING EFFECT UNLESS AGREED TO BY THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL AND THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. BUT HE STILL WANTED TO SEE OUR REACTION ON BOTHA'S CONSENSUS IDEA BEFORE ACCEPTING THIS PARTICULAR FORMULATION.

ON SUB-PARA 3), FOURIE EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION THAT THE CHANGE HAD BEEN ACCEPTED.

ON SUB-PARA 4), FOURIE SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT PUSH FOR USE OF THE TERM "ELECTORAL PROCESS" BUT THAT HE WANTED TO RESERVE JUDGEMENT ON ACCEPTING "POLITICAL PROCESS" UNTIL WE HAD COMMENTED ON THE CONSENSUS ASPECT.

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CLARIFICATION L (PARAGRAPH 7(B)):

FOURIE RESTATED WHAT BOTHA HAD SAID ON SUNDAY, NAMELY THAT THE PROPOSED MECHANISM OF A LEGAL ADVISER TO THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WAS NOT ADEQUATE.

CLARIFICATION O (PARAGRAPH 8(A)):

FOURIE SAID THAT THEY HAD BECOME "ACCUSTOMED" TO INCLUDING THE WORDS "UNDER UNITED NATIONS MONITORING" IN THE VARIOUS SUB-PARAGRAPHS. WHILE HE RECOGNISED THAT THE PHRASE MIGHT BE REDUNDANT, HE MUCH PREFERRED TO HAVE THE REPETITION IN SUB-PARAGRAPHS 8(A) AND 8(B) FOR THE SAKE OF CLARITY.

CLARIFICATION R (PARAGRAPH 8(E)):

FOURIE WENT ON TO SAY THAT OUR REVISED SUB-PARAGRAPH 8(E), WHILE MAKING PROVISION FOR UN OBSERVATION, WAS NOT ADEQUATELY CLEAR ON THE POINT OF UN MONITORING OF FORCES CONFINED TO BASE. FOURIE SAID THAT OUR OBSERVATIONS ON THIS PARAGRAPH WERE GENERALLY HELPFUL, BUT THIS WAS AGAIN LINKED TO THE CONSENSUS IDEA RAISED BY BOTHA LAST SUNDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FIXING OF THE LEVEL OF THE UNTAG BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. HE PREFERRED NOT TO COMMENT FURTHER UNTIL WE HAD RESPONDED TO THE IDEA OF ALLOWING THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCESS.

CLARIFICATION T (PARAGRAPH 9):

ON THE SECOND SUB-PARGRAPH RELATING TO THE "SMALL ARMS" WHICH THE POLICE WILL CARRY, FOURIE SAID THAT WE SHOULD CONSIDER OUR LANGUAGE TO BE SATISFACTORY UNLESS WE HEARD FURTHER FROM HIM. WITH RESPECT TO THE ROLE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE IN RELATION TO THE POLICE, FOURIE SAID THAT THEY PREFERRED NOT TO MAKE A FINAL JUDGEMENT ON WHAT WE HAD PROPOSED UNTIL THE ISSUE OF CONSENSUS HAD BEEN FURTHER DEFINED.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 0456

CLARIFICATION U (OLD PARAGRAPH 11):

FOURIE SAID THAT THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION HAD BEEN THAT IT WOULD BE BEST NOT TO INCLUDE A PARAGRAPH ON WALVIS BAY IN THE PROPOSALS. THIS CONTINUED TO BE THEIR VIEW. THEY ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER HANDLING OF THIS QUESTION ALONG THE LINES OF OUR FOUR POINTS BUT ASK TO BE CONSULTED IN ADVANCE ON HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE.

3. FOURIE RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE DATE FOR WITHDRAWAL OF THE SADF RESIDUAL FORCE POINTING OUT ONCE AGAIN THAT THE FORMULATION OF THE FIVE WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE. BEFORE COMMENTING ANY FURTHER, THEY WOULD WAIT TO HEAR THE REACTION OF THE FIVE ON THE SUGGESTION MADE BY BOTHA IN THE CONVERSATION ON SUNDAY.

4. HAVING COMPLETED THE REVIEW OF THE FEB. 27 DOCUMENT, WE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT WE WERE NOT BEING FURNISHED WITH

SAG REACTIONS TO THE POINTS MADE TO BOTHA ON SUNDAY. FOURIE
REPLIED THAT HE WAS TRYING TO KEEP PACE. THE REVIEW HE HAD
JUST MADE WAS OF THE DOCUMENT WHICH WE HAD PRESENTED TO HIM
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NINE DAYS AGO AND THIS LEFT THE SUNDAY CONVERSATION STILL BE
BE COVERED. WE TOLD HIM THAT WE HAD REPORTED BACK ON THE SUNDAY
TALKS IN TERMS OF THESE REPRESENTING PRELIMINARY AND PERSONAL
OBSERVATIONS BY BOTHA WHICH WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO
HIGHER AUTHORITY BEFORE BEING FORMULATED AS SAG RESPONSES.
WE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROCESS OF REVISING OUR PROPOSALS
IN THE LIGHT OF THE CLARIFICATIONS WAS DRAWING TO AN END,
AND IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO HAVE THE CONSIDERED SAG VIEW ON
OUR POINTS MADE LAST SUNDAY SO THAT THESE MIGHT BE TAKEN INTO
CONSIDERATION IN FINALISING THE PROPOSALS. AFTER ADMONISHING
US NOT TO FINALISE ANYTHING BEFORE HAVING THE SAG COMMENTS,
FOURIE SAID THAT HE WOULD TELL BOTHA RIGHT AWAY OF OUR REQUEST.

5. THE FOREGOING EXCHANGE LED FOURIE TO LIST THE ISSUES ON
WHICH THEY WERE EXPECTING A REACTION FROM US. THESE WERE:

--THE THREE QUESTIONS ASKED BY BOTHA ON SUNDAY (PARA 6 OF
REPORT IN CAPE TOWN 423).

--INCLUSION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL IN THE PROCESS OF
DECIDING THE LEVEL OF THE UN FORCES.

--A SATISFACTORY MECHANISM FOR REXLVING DIFFERENCES OVER
QSGALEASE OF PRISONERS.

--THE SETTING OF A DATE FOR ELECTIONS.

6. AS WE LEFT THE ROOM FOURIE SAID HE STILL HOPED IT WOULD
BE POSSIBLE TO GET THROUGH NEXT WEEK WITHOUT A DEBATE ON THE
NAMIBIA ISSUE IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT.
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